

2012 Fact Sheets for 303(d) Waters

RIVER BASIN:	Rappahannock River Basin	HYDROLOGIC UNIT:	02080104
STREAM NAME:	Rappahannock River		
TMDL ID:	RPPMH-DO-BAY	2012 IMPAIRED AREA ID:	CB-RPPMH
ASSESSMENT CATEGORY:	4A/3B	TMDL DUE DATE:	2010
IMPAIRED SIZE:	123.53 - Sq. Mi.	Watershed:	VAP-E22E
INITIAL LISTING:	1998		
UPSTREAM LIMIT:	Mesohaline boundary		
DOWNSTREAM LIMIT:	Mouth at Chesapeake Bay		

The mesohaline Rappahannock River and tidal tributaries.

CLEAN WATER ACT GOAL AND USE SUPPORT:

Aquatic Life Use - Not Supporting, Open Water Subuse - Insufficient Information, Deep Water Use - Not Supporting, Deep Channel Use - Not Supporting

IMPAIRMENT: Dissolved Oxygen

The mainstem of the Rappahannock River from Myrtle Swamp to its mouth was originally listed in 1998 by DEQ due to dissolved oxygen exceedances and nutrient overenrichment. The EPA extended the segment upstream to the confluence with Totuskey Creek. In the 2004 cycle dissolved oxygen exceedances were noted in deep water and deep channel stations downstream of the confluence with Lancaster Creek (Morattico), which is further downstream.

The new Chesapeake Bay Water Quality Standards were implemented during the 2006 cycle. The mesohaline portion of the Rappahannock previously failed the Open Water Subuse's summer 30-day mean dissolved oxygen criteria, however during the 2012 cycle the segment meets both the summer and rest-of-year criteria. Due to EPA policy, the segment must remain impaired for DO until all criteria can be assessed.

Applicable areas fail the Deep Water 30-day mean dissolved oxygen criteria. During the 2008 cycle, the Deep Channel Subuse's instantaneous minimum dissolved oxygen criteria was violated, however the segment met the use during the 2010 cycle and was delisted; it is re-impaired during the 2012 cycle. There is insufficient data to assess the other dissolved oxygen criteria. The Chesapeake Bay TMDL was approved by the EPA on 12/29/2010, therefore RPPMH is considered Category 4A.

The mesohaline portion of the Rappahannock River does not meet the Shallow Water Subuse's submerged aquatic vegetation acreage standards. However, RPPMH had acceptable water clarity acreage during the 2010 cycle and the segment was delisted; it remains fully supporting in the 2012 cycle (Category 2C).

The Chesapeake Bay TMDL was approved by the EPA on 12/29/2010, therefore RPPMH is considered Category 4A.

IMPAIRMENT SOURCE: Point Source, Nonpoint Source

The Chesapeake Bay TMDL allocated total nitrogen, total phosphorus, and total suspended solids to point and nonpoint sources throughout the watershed.

RECOMMENDATION: Implementation